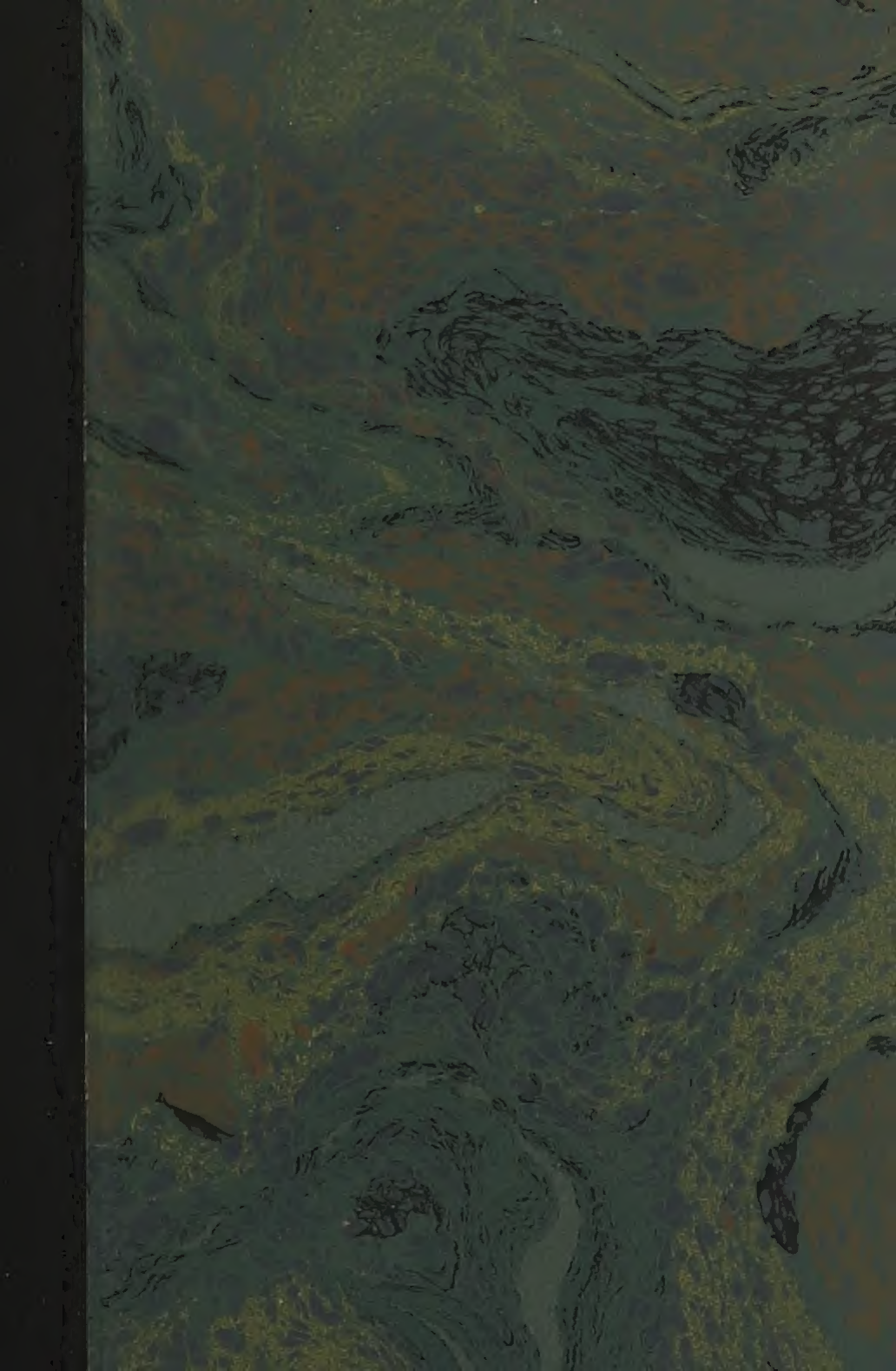

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JOHN ROWE

An Eighteenth Century Boston Angler

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY COPIES PRIVATELY PRINTED
for JOHN C. PHILLIPS
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By John C. Phillips

INTRODUCTION

It is very seldom that we run across any specific information concerning the sport of fishing in the neighborhood of Boston in pre-revolutionary times. But in 1903 there was published by Anne Rowe Cunningham of Milton, Massachusetts, the "Letters and Diary of John Rowe, Boston Merchant."

Scattered through this diary of a very remarkable man are notes about the days when he "went a fishing" in ponds and streams mostly within driving distance of the city. Perhaps few Boston anglers have ever seen this book, and thinking that these little glimpses of angling more than one hundred and fifty years ago in places familiar to most of us might be of interest, I have extracted all those portions which deal with fishing.

John Rowe, substantial merchant and citizen of his time, kept a diary from 1764 to 1779 but unfortunately there are three serious breaks in it, sadly missed by the historian. Nevertheless, there is enough left to give us a very vivid picture of the society of that time. Rowe was intimately acquainted with such historical figures as Otis, Hancock, Bowdoin, Cushing, the Quincys, Adamses, Olivers, Gridleys, Boylstons and many others.

He filled many offices of trust in Boston, and in 1768 became Grand Master of the Masonic Order in North America. Rowe's Wharf still bears his name. He owned a considerable tract of land in the vicinity of Essex Street and Bedford Street which was known as Rowe's Pastures, and on this land he grew hay and vegetables and pastured sheep and cattle; also he owned property in other towns: Dighton,

Plymouth, Malden, Medford, Gloucester, Milton, Hardwick, Stoughton, Grafton, Shelbourne, Deerfield, and even in the state of Connecticut. In short, he was "one of the foremost merchants of Boston."

He was born in Exeter, England, November 27, 1715 and died in Boston, February 17, 1787. He married Hannah Speakman in 1743, but there were no children as a result of this union.

As to his sentiments towards Great Britain at and before the time of the Revolution, we can easily see that Rowe was a "moderate", as in fact were most of his friends, the substantial merchants of that period. Without being a hot-headed "patriot," so called, he was nevertheless strongly opposed to the restrictive policy imposed on the colonies by the mother country; but he was against carrying his opposition beyond the stage of "argument, appeal and protest."

Rowe was, as may be imagined, a very busy man but he was sensible enough to let no opportunity for recreation escape while on his many business journeys, leisurely enough they seem to us now, around eastern Massachusetts. In the early part of his journals he was fishing mostly in Flax Pond (Lake Menuchus) in Lynn and in the latter part mostly in the Charles River at Dedham. Other fishing resorts were Menotomy Pond (Spy Pond); Fresh Pond, Cambridge; Spot Pond; Jamaica Pond; Ponkapoag Pond and perhaps Houghton's Pond (August 2, 1766). Also Mossepong (or Massapoag Pond) in Sharon; ponds or streams in Natick and Wrentham; the Great Worster Pond (Lake Quinsigamond) and a pond "at the upper end of Mallden." He was familiar besides with the fishing resorts of Hingham, Taunton, Duxbury, Pembroke and Plymouth, and at least

once he went so far as the famous Mashpee River on Cape Cod.

Pond fish grew larger in Rowe's day than they do now, which makes one wonder whether we might not even now provide better fishing in our "Great" ponds if, through some arrangement of rotation, we could rest each pond for one out of every three years, or better two out of every five years. In these days of easy transportation regulations of this kind would be of little hardship to anyone, and moreover they would be easy to enforce.

John C. Phillips

Wenham, Massachusetts
November 9, 1929

JOHN ROWE

An Eighteenth Century Boston Angler

1764

September 15

A beautiful morning. went a fishing at Jamaica Pond. had poor luck.

September 17

Rose very early before six, went with Mrs. Rowe to Flax Pond in compy with Mr. Inman & S., Mr. Jona Simpson & the Revd Mr. Walter. were Joyned by John Lane & Henry Ayres & Capt Tracy of Newberry. had very Good Sport. in the afternoon I lost the Top of my Rod Line & Hooks by a very large Pickerell.

September 21

Went to Flax pond at twelve of Clock arrd there at four in the afternoon. Rained very fast. had tolerable good luck. went from there to Johnson's on Lynn Plain. when I came there found young Mr. Lewis & Sheriff had taken up two people that had stole Goods from Colo. Lee. Spent the evng at Johnson's with Sam Calef & slept there.

September 22

Rose early this morning, went to Flax pond, fished with Mr Saml Calef had great sport. caught two

Pickerell one was two foot long & weighed three pounds & three quarters & about four dozen large Pond Perch, one measured fourteen inches. Capt Lessly arrived this day from a Cruise & Got no Prizes.

October 13

Went with Henry Ayres to Monomy pond, had very bad sport, came to Mr Inman's & dined (with a numerous company)

October 18

Went a fishing for Smelts with Mr Fenton but got none.

1765

May 1

Set out early this morning, reached Pembroke went fishing had bad luck, began to Rain which was much wanted. Got to Duxbury Mills, went a fishing, had tolerable luck. dined at Mr Nath. Ray Thomas on a mess of Trout. spent the eve'ng & slept there.

May 3

Breakfasted at Capt Whites. Went a fishing with Mr Wm Watson, had very good sport. I caught one very large Trout & several other very fine ones. Dined at Colo. Geo. Watson's with Mr Walter, Mr Calef, Mr Watson & daughter. Set out after dinner for home. Stopt at Pembroke at Spears & got in the eve'ng to Cushings. there met Mr Gill of Boston. spent the eve'ng & slept there. heard of Whitmarsh sailing.

May 11

Went fishing at Manotomy Pond with Saml Calef had very good Sport, dined at Winship's, the tavern there & fished there in the afternoon had also very Good Sport, we caught at least ten dozn of Pond Perch & several Pickerel, came home & spent the evening at the "Possee."

May 25

Rose very early, went to Flax Pond & breakfasted there with Miss Becky, went a fishing, had great sport, dined with Miss Becky, Mr. Hale, Mr Geo Apthorp, Mr J. Lane & Mr Inman — came home with Mr Hale & spent the evening with the Revd Mr Walter found Old Mrs Graves dead.

June 4

King's Birthday. Went early in the morning with Wm Sheaff & Saml Calef to Manotomy pond. had very Good Sport fishing — were joyned by Solo. Davis & Geo. Bethune – we all dined together at Wyndships — Mr Sheaff & I went fishing at Fresh Pond in the afternoon.

June 19

This morning our fishermen caught a large fish in the shape of a Shark Twenty foot long, his Teeth were different from a Shark's teeth — Went after dinner to Jamaica pond with Capt Jacobson, had pretty good Sport.

June 28

I went to Marblehead about Ten of Clock & dined at Major Reed's with Capt Southcote & two French-

men. Paid a visit to several of my Friends & came away about six got to Flax Pond alias Gravesend & there met Mr Saml Calef. wee fished & supped & stayed there all night — very agreeably entertained.

July 3

Rose very early this morning & went with Mr Saml Calef to Natick Pond. was obliged to stop three hours at Pratt's at Needham it rained so hard, however wee had very good sport. Dined at Bullard's on Fish which Mrs Bullard dressed very well. In the afternoon came Colo. Brattell, Colo. Danforth, Col Watts on affairs of the Government.

July 13

Rose very early this morning, went to Monotomy Pond with the Revd Mr Auchmooty & Mr Sam Calef had great sport, we caught above sixteen dozn of pond & sea perch — made a Rough Day of it & came home in the evening & spent it at home with the Revd Mr Walter who had taken umbrage at Mr Hooper's behaviour which I endeavoured to Reconcile & hope shall be able to effect it.

July 20

Rose very early this morning. Mr Calef, the Revd Mr Auchmooty & myself went to a pond beyond the Blue Hills & put up at Mr Joseph Gooch — went fishing had very fine Diversion — the weather very hot — came from thence to Mr. James Smiths' & dined with him & wife, the Revd Mr Winslow the Revd Mr Auchmooty & his Daughter Bella, Mr Robt Auchmooty & wife — Mr Robt Temple & wife —

Mr Inman, Mrs Rowe — Mrs Pratt, Polly Overing & Miss Bella Pratt & Mr Saml Calef.

July 27

Rose very early this morning. went with M Saml Calef to Capt Kendrick's on Charles River a fishing — had very good sport — dined there with James Pitts & wife, James Boudoin, Esq. & wife, James Boutineau & wife, Melabiah Bourn & wife, Mr. John Erving Junr, Mr Geo. Erving, Thos Flucker & wife, Mr Nicho Boylston, Mr Saml Calef, Miss Hannah Flucker — Went to Mr. Inman's after dinner — there I met Mrs. Rowe, Mr Saml Hughes & wife drank tea there, came home & spent the evening at home.

1766

May 13

Rose very early this morning & set out for Hopkinton on my old mare — got to Woodburns at nine of Clock & reached Colo Jones at Hopkinton at twelve - I went to the Brook with Charles & caught a fine Red Trout — measured 14 inches & several other Fish. Dined at Colo. Jones with him & wife, Mr John Nazro & Colo. Jones daughter. after dinner came Deacon Russell, Thomas Millens & wife & James Millens — after many debates we adjusted their accts & settled them. Slept there.

May 14

Rose early. I went & tryed to get some trout but could not. Came away from Colo Jones after break-

fast & stopt at Capt Drury's at Framingham as it rained hard — got to Mr. Inman's (at Cambridge) at two in the afternoon.

May 20

Set out early this morning for Hardwick with Mr Saml Calef. Reached Mr Woodburn's before nine, then joyned Major Golthwait, from thence we got to Sudbury at Bryant's & from thence to Sister Speakman's at Marlborough. There wee dined with Mr Henry Barnes, Mrs Speakman, Mrs Instant & Miss Betsy Ledell. After dinner wee set out for Shrewsbury & Reached Furneſs' at six. Mr Calef & I went to the Great Worcester pond & caught Two dozn of fine Perch which wee Brought to Furneſs' & suppd on. Slept there & got up early & passed through Holden.

May 23

After doing my Business Major Golthwait Mr Calef & I set out for Rutland from Hardwick. We reached Colo. Murray's & dined there with him & lady — Mrs. Bliss, Miss Betty Murray & Miss Chrissy Green — after dinner we went & caught a mess of Trout. In the evening they had Great Rejoicings at Rutland — they behaved very well, had a large Bonfire & many sky Rockets which I put them in a way to fire — there was a Genteel entertainment at ye Tavern. Afterwards wee returned to Colo. Murray's where there was a Grand Supper & entertainment prepared & Many Loyal Healths drank. We then retired to bed.

June 7

I went this forenoon to Needham a fishing with Mr Saml Calef, Mr Thos Knights, Mr John Steven-

son & Mr Archibd McNeal — we had middling luck — there is a Trout Brook empties itself into Charles River abo a mile & half beyond Dedham Island Crossway - dined under a large apple tree & fished again.

June 21

Went with Mr Saml Calef to Monotomy Pond, din'd there & went fishing, had very Good Sport, caught seven dozn of Perch.

June 23

Capt Birney sailed for London this morning. After dinner I went to Monotomy Pond with Archib'd Mr Neal & Mr Knight had pretty Good Sport.

June 26

Capt Jacobson & I Rose very early & went to Bullards at Natick where I sent for Mr Louis abo some Inch & Quarter Oak Boards & agreed with him for as many as he & his neighbours Could Bring. We went fishing at Natick Pond & had very good sport. Dined at Bullard's with Capt Jacobson went down to Charles River & fished there. wee had very Good Sport.

June 28

We got in all our hay. I spent two hours with Capt Jacobson on Jamaica Pond, wee had poor Luck.

July 5

After Dinner I went to old Mr Gould's with Mrs Rowe to see Mr Wentworth who I found very weak & Low. Spent abo an hour a fishing with Capt Jacobson, had Little Sport.

July 8

Rose very early & went with Mr Armiel to Fresh Pond. Had very poor Sport, caught but a dozen of Perch. Dined at Prentice's with a very large company.

July 29

Capt Jacobson & I went to Flax Pond, had very Good Sport. Caught twelve dozen Perch in two hours. Dined at Flax Pond & stopt at Mr Joseph Gould's at Lynn — from thence came home.

August 2

I went this morning with Capt Jones to the Lieut Governments abo Stedsons affairs. Afterwards to a pond abo a mile from Colo Dotys with Mr John Lovell junr & Saml Calef. wee had Good Sport & caught a great many fish tho they were small. Mrs Rowe has been unwell but is growing much Better.

August 12

Went with Cornelius White, Edwd Winslow, & Young Bradford also Capt Ashburn to South Pond a fishing — had very good sport. I caught a very large Perch — measured 18 inches & weighed three pounds & a half. Dined at Edwd Winslows with him & wife & two Daughters. After dinner we set out for home. Reached Hall's at Pembrooke where wee Stopt & from thence to Cushing's & Bracket's where we lodged that night. Colo. Ephraim Leonard, Mr Justice Williams, & Mr Justice Elisha Toby who was this day moved into his office, also Mr Justice Fales who is Clerk of the Court — had some conversation with Colo. White & Mr Adams on the affairs

of Ebenezer Stedson with B & Edw Davis & gave Mr Adams a Guinea as a fee.

August 18

Mrs Rowe still unwell. After Dinner Mr Saml Calef, Mr J. Amiel, Wm Speakman & myself set out for Taunton. We stopt at Colo. Doty's Pond & caught Eight Dozen of Perch.

August 21

Wee Rose early this morning and went a fishing. had Good Sport. We were joyn'd by Mr James Smith & wife, Two Mrs. Belchers, Miss Clark Miss Dolly Murray Mrs Jones Miss Blowers Miss Amiel Mr Hutchinson & Mr Waller. We all Din'd at Colo Doty's. in the evening I came home & found Mrs Rowe very unwell.

August 23

Mrs Rowe no sleep tonight. din'd at Mr Ezekl Golthwaits at Roxbury with him & wife & three Daughters, Mr James Smith & wife Both Mrs Belchers, Mrs Jones & Mr Waller. went in the afternoon to Jamaica Pond & fished there with Capt Jacobson had pretty Good Sport. Mr Wentworth lies dangerously Ill at Roxbury. Mr. Copeland took his Face this afternoon.

August 27

The weather still very hot. Mr Amiel & I went to Mystick & din'd there at Jones. afterwards we went to Spot Pond & caught a Good many small Perch & Returned in the eveing. The weather changed the wind Easterly & very Cold.

August 30

Mr. Core came early this morning & we went to Capt Kendricks a fishing. wee were joyned by Major Golthwait, Mr Armiel & Mr Calef. wee all dined there & a very elegant Dinner. Partridges for the first time this season. The Garland mann of War sailed this day on a Cruise. Capt St John.

September 11

Set out of Taunton for home. stopt at Howard's & at the Wido Noyes where I met Edwd Quincy Junr & breakfasted there. wee set out for Colo Doty's. Reached his home at Eleven of Clock. Mr Quincy & I went a fishing. after dinner set out for home & stopt at his honour the Lieut Governour's & I d'ld his Daughter the Sherriff Richmond's Return on Stedson's affairs with the Inventory annext.

September 30

Rose very early this morning & went a fishing with James Perkins & Saml Calef. wee din'd together under a tree on the Causeway beyond Dedham Island. Wee had very great sport.

1767

April 28

Set out early from Halls & got to Duxbury Mills. Stopt there & fished, had very Good Sport. caught five Dozen Trout. Dined at Dr Harlows. Reached Plymouth. I see all my Friends. Slept at Capt White's.

April 29

Went to my Forge with Cornelius White, Pelham Winslow, Edwd Winslow junr. did what business I had to do. After dinner set out for Marshfield stopt at Kingston at Mr Little's, had some conversation with Miss Lydia Little. Wee set out from thence and Reached Duxbury Mills, fished there & caught abo a Dozen Trout. In the evening wee went to Gen. Winslow's, Marshfield & slept there.

April 30

We went to Duxbury Brook, had very good sport. Returned to the General's & dined there. Set out from the General's, Reached Hall's & then for Cushing's.

May 12

Rode thro' Marlborough, called at Mrs Speakman's. Reached Martin's at Northborough, breakfasted there, Reached Furnace's, stopt at the bridge & got half a Dozn Trout. got to Worcester & dined at Colo. Chandler's. Met Gen. Ruggles there, examined the Commissioner's Return on Isaac Thomas' Estate. did my Business. Drank tea with Mrs Chandler & Miss Dolly Chandler, spent the even'g & slept there.

May 13

Finished what I had to do, set out with Mr John Greene for home. called at Worcester Bridge, caught one Trout & half a Dozen perch. went forward and stopt at a Brook two miles this side of Shrewsbury. caught ten Trout. Reached Mrs Speakman's at Marlborough. dined there. Pd Mrs Barnes a visit,

drank Tea there. Set out from thence & got to Westown. Spent the eve'ng at Major Goldthwaits & slept there.

May 23

About Ten of Clock I went with Mr Timothy Fitch to Medford & paid a visit to the Revd Mr Turrell & agreed with him for his piece of Land by my old house for four hundred dollars. Afterwards dined at Mr Benjn Hall's at Medford. Wee set out after dinner for Spot Pond & fished there. We had but poor Sport. Wee caught abo 4 dozen of small perch, a few pickerel & three Eylls.

June 2

I rose very early this morning & Routed up my companions & set out for Bullard's pond at Natick, where went a fishing, had extraordinary Sport. We did not weigh the fish, I guess wee caught about Eighty weight. I caught 25¾ lbs weighed at Kendrick's. We came back & dined at Kendricks with Old Madm Apthorp Major Byard & Lady Mr Amiel & Wife Mr Inman & Mrs Rowe Mr Spence & Miss Sally Sheaffe Capt Jacobson Sam Calef, Mr Thos Apthorp, Mr Robt Apthorp, Geo Inman & Jack Wheelwright. Wee were very merry.

June 6

Still very hot. I went to Monotomy with Saml Calef & din'd at Newalls there, with him & Andrew Hall, after dinner wee went a fishing & Caught abo 4 dozen of middling Perch. This evening it Lightened & thundered & Rained extream hard. I hardly ever saw a severer storm.

June 8

About twelve of Clock I went with Capt Duncan Ingram to Cambridge and din'd with him at Ebenr Braddocks. after dinner I went to Judge Danforths on Business & found him gone to Boston. Called on Henry Vaſsall & Mr Trollet, spent an hour with them & then Capt Ingram & I went to Freshpond a fishing, had good Sport — came to Town & spent the eve'ng at the Poſse.

June 16

Dined at home with Capt Hunter, Major Jos Goldthwaite, Mrs Rowe & Suckey on Greenpeas out of our own Garden — in the afternoon Wm Speakman & I went to Jamaica Pond a fishing, had poor Sport.

July 6

Set out for Worcester. Stopt at Major Goldthwait's. he went with me, wee din'd at Mrs Speakman's at Marlborough. Set out after Dinner, Mr Wm. J. Thompson Joyn'd us at Colo Williams. Wee reached Mr. Furnaces at Shrewsbury. Wee caught a Good meſs of Perch. supped & slept there.

July 7

Caught another meſs of Fish, got to Worcester at ten of Clock, held the Vendue at Twelve at Mr Sterns — din'd there with General Ruggles, Mr Blake Major Thompson, Major Goldthwaite & Mr John Nazro the afternoon wee adjusted several accts.

July 8

Set out for home with Major Goldthwait. We stopt at Shrewsbury Pond, caught a Meſs of Perch

& din'd at Mr Barnes at Marlborough. Set out for Sudbury fish'd there, had good sport, came to Major Goldthwaitt at Weston & slept there.

July 24

Went with Mr Timo Fitch to Flax pond, had very Great Sport, caught upwards of Twenty dozn din'd there with Mr John Erving Capt Solomon Davis, Capt Duncan Ingraham, Mr. Jno Brown, Mr Timothy Fitch, Capt Jacobson & Mr Saml Calef, wee spent the afternoon very merry & Mr Calef & I went to Marblehead where I met Jerry Lee & Capt Copmer on Businefs, when done wee spent the evening at Mr Reeds & slept there.

August 1

We went to Punkapong Pond & fished there. caught 26 Dozen of Pond Perch before ten of Clock. (2 gentlemen, Mr. John Boylston & himself) John Boylston is a Good Companion but very Fretful & Uneasy in his make. I should be very Glad to accompany him at any Time on a party of fishing, especially when the fish Bite fast.

August 29

I went with Wm. Speakman to Kendrick's. After dinner wee went fishing. coming home wee saw a Kite attack a full grown Duck. he struck his Tallons into her side which would have killed her, but did not carry her off being Pursued by the people. Capt Robson sailed for London this day, in whom Mr Sears & Colo. Jarvis went pafsengers.

October 1

Set out with Capt Ashborne for Salem. Stopt at Flax Pond. I caught two dozen of fine large Perch & three Pickerell. Dined at Salem at Mr Goodhews after dinner I paid a visit to several of my old Acquaintances & Friends. Mr Sam Barton, Mr Douse, Mrs Epps & Spent the evening at Colo. Pickman's. Slept at Goodhews. a good Tavern & good Lodging.

October 2

Went to Mr West's Fish Fence. Bought his fish, did some other business — in my way home stopt at Flax Pond & fished there. Left my Fishing Rod & Leather Dram Bottle there.

October 23

Breakfasted with Capt Wood at home. Wee set out for Richards. wee fished at Dedham Cauſsway had good Sport come back to Richards & din'd with the Revd Mr Townsend of Medway, Capt Woods & Wm Speakman. Capt Ashburn saild to Day.

1768

April 27

Reached Dr. Halls Pembrooke, wee Breakfasted there, from thence to Duxbury; fished there & caught upwards five Dozen of fine Trout. wee din'd at Dr. Harlows. Set out & called at Major Bradfords & from thence Reached Plymouth. I spent the evening and slept at Capt White's.

April 28

Did what Business I had to do din'd at Edwd Winslow Esq with him Mrs. Winslow, Mr Edwd Winslow junr Miss Dyer Miss Penny Winslow Mr Calef Mr Knights Mr Hooker one of the Inspectors arrived at Plymouth with Attendance. About three of Clock wee Returned to Duxbury, had good Sport, I Caught about a Dozen fine Trout. We went to General Winslows spent the evening & slept there.

April 29

Mr Pelham Winslow joyned us. wee went a fishing had but poor luck. Returned to Generalls & dind there with him Mrs. Winslow Miss Massy Little Miss Plly Little Wm. Sever Esq & Daughter Mr. Pelham Winslow Mr Nat Ray Thomas Mr Knights Mr Calef. After Dinner we set out from thence, stopt at Fords & at Dr. Halls & from thence to Cushings & slept.

April 30

Wee went to Cushings Brook. Mr Knights caught the finest Trout I ever saw. After Dinner set out for home stopt at Brackets paid our Reckoning £7.2.6 Old Tenr pr man for the Journey. Stopt at Crampeys & came home and found all well.

May 14

Went with Gregory Townsend Mr. Saml Calef & Wm. Speakman to Dedham Cofsway fishing had Good Sport.

May 28

Went a fishing with Mr Thos Knights & Mr Saml Calef at Mr Days at Strawberry Hill in Springfield. had

but poor Sport, dind there with Mr Day & wife came home & spent the evening with Mrs Rowe & Sucky.

June 1

Went to Flax pond with Mr. Saml Calef, Capt. Handfield Mr Thos Jackson senr. Wee had good Sport, wee were joynd by Mr. McKneal from Surrinam & Archibald McKneal. Wee dind at Mr. Graves. wee went to Salem, wee spent the evening at Mr Goodhues & slept there.

June 2

Wee breakfasted at Colo Higginsons Returned to Flax Pond. Had but ordinary Sport — After Dinner we Returned to Boston Spent part of the evening at the Charitable Society & the remainder at the Coffee House.

June 18

Went to Mr Ballard's at Natick Pond, there I met Capt Jacobson & Mr Sam. Calef, wee fished there, had Great Sport — we caught several Perch Fifteen Inches Long & one Sixteen Inches. Capt. Bellew in his Majesty's Sloop Beaver arrvd yesterday evening from Hallifax & Capt Marshman arrv'd from Lisbon & Jamaica consigned to me.

July 15

Went to Flax Pond. we fished there and had pretty good sport. We spent the evening at Mrs Graves' & slept at her daughter Becky's.

July 16

Rose early & went fishing. dined at Mrs. Graves. Came home & Mrs. Rowe told me of the Sons of

Liberty visiting at Mr Williams the evening before & that he engaged to meet them on the Change this day which he did & great numbers, she says were present. he asked them what Questions they had to ask him that he might answer them but no Person made him any Reply.

August 17

After Dinner I set out with Capt Jacobson & Saml Calef for Colo Doty's — wee fished on Punkapaud Pond —spent the eve'ng & slept at Colo. Doty's.

August 18

Wee went again to fish — had great sport, caught upwards of twenty dozen & some Large Fish — set out for home, were caught in the Rain, and stopt at Mr Clarks at Milton.

September 10

I went out to Richards with Saml Calef a fishing on the Cofsway — was very Lucky — caught many Perch & fine ones — Lost severall fine Hooks & Snoods.

1769

June 3

Went with Mr James Perkins & Mr Saml Calef to Spot Pond a fishing — we were joyned by Major Vassall & Mr Thompson of Medford — Wee had very great luck — I never saw such large Perch. before Caught there, many of them abo 12 inches.

1770

May 23

Sandwich — Wee rose early & set out for Mashby an Indian Town — Wee took a Guide, one Mr Fowler — wee reached Jos. Ashers, a Native. Wee fished there, found it a wild place — Wee had Good Sport — from thence wee went to Mr Crocker's the Tavern — wee dined there & wee were joyned by Capt Solo. Davis, Mr Calef, Mr Brattle & the Reverend Mr Hawley, the Indian Minister who I take to be a Clever man — there were two young Ladies Daughters of Mr Crocker, Miss Betty & Miss Sally — very Clever & Genteel from this we Returned to Sandwich — we spent the evening & supped at Mr Fessenden's — We slept at Mr Newcombs — very Good Beds — We passed by the most Beautiful Pond, named Wakely.

May 24

Wee Rose early & set out for Plymouth — Stopt at Ellis & from thence got to the monument where we stopt at Isaac Jeffreys, an Indian & a preacher to the Indians — his Squaw had a neat Wigwam I slept an hour there. We dined there after dinner I went down to the River & Caught Ten Trout — The Largest I ever saw several of them eighteen Inches in Length. From thence we returned to Plymouth & spent the evening at Edward Winslows.

1771

April 25

(Plymouth) Set out for the Manoment Ponds. Wee Reached Isaac Jeffrys the Indian Parsons Wig-

wam. wee were joynd by Pelham & Edwd Winslow junr. wee were disappointed in our Diversions, the water been very high & the Ponds not drawn off — wee stayed the Day & had but poor Luck.

June 11

Wee fished again no Great Sport — Wee din'd at Bullard's from thence came home to Boston, was Caught in a very hard Shower of Rain much Lighting & Thunder. Wet to Skin. I was called up by Major Fleming on a Particular Affair between Capt Linzee & Lieut Sharp Marine officer of the Salisbury.

1772

June 5

I went to Richards with Thos Knight, Jos. Green & Jno Williams wee fished. wee had but middling Luck. Thos Knight caught Twenty Two Trout. I sent the Admirall a Dozen of Trout & Perch.

June 19

Wee went to Flax Pond, wee fished there, wee had the Best Sport I ever was at, wee caught very near a hundred Weight of Fish & the Largest Perch I ever saw there.

1773

May 5

Mr Townsend & myself caught five dozen & eight fine Trout (at Pembroke.)

There was a Town meeting this day at Boston the

four Old Representatives were Chosen. John Hancock, Thos Cushing, Samuell Adams & Wm Phillips.

May 8

Wee had very fine Trout which I Caught at Pembrook for Dinner. I sent Mrs Montague Six Large Ones.

May 22

I went with James Perkins, Henry Laughton & Saml Calef to Natick Pond — wee were Joyned by Tuthill Hubbard & Joshua Blanchard & wee fished there. wee had Good Sport — Wee caught upwards of Ten dozn Pickerell & Perch — the Boats in very Bad order & Leaky — Our Commissioners Returned home last night from the Congress of New York — abo the Line which was held at Hartford — they have adjusted the affair to the Satisfaction of the Government. Govr Hutchinson, Genl Brattle, Colo Hancock & Major Hawley.

May 29

I rose very early this morning in order to get Hunter away. afterwards I went to Richards a fishing with Tuthill Hubbard, James Perkins, Saml Calef & Wm Davis. After I came home I heard of his Majesty's Store Ship having Caught fire & was burnt with all the Stores in her. it put the Inhabitants of the Town Into Great Consternation for Fear of a Large Quantity of Powder being on board. They tow'd her to Noddles Island.

June 8

I rose very early & set out with Duncan for Wrentham on a Party with Admirall Montague. I

stopt at Richards & at Robin's Walpole & at eleven I reached Wrentham. I went a fishing with the Admiral & Capt Jordan. Wee caught a great many but very small. I dined at Mann's Tavern with Admiral & Mrs. Montague, Capt & Mrs Jordan, Capt George Montague Miss Sohpia Montague, Majr Musgrave, Miss Blake. Wee spent the afternoon & evening. wee all slept there.

June 9

I rose very early & went afishing with the Admiral. The Admiral caught 173 Perch.

July 28

Went with Mrs Rowe to Salem — We stopt at Newalls Lynn from thence to Flax Pond — I fished there. I had very good sport — We reached Salem, we dined at Goodhew's Tavern — Afternoon we paid a visit to Revd Mr Nicholls & Jack Rowe.

July 29

Went with Mr Inman & Duncan to Flax Pond — When we came there we found James Perkins & Saml Calef - We dined under the Trees there & were joyned by Mrs Inman, Sally Inman, Mrs Rowe, the Revd Mr Nicholls, Jack Rowe, Jack Coffin & Lewis Deblois — We were merry there — On our way home we met Mrs Fisher of Salem & Miss Peggy Douse at Lynn - The Ladies Nicholls drank Tea Together — Yesterday Ansell Nickerson's Triall for Piracy begun, not yet over - his Judges are the Govr Mr Hutchinson. Lieut Govr Andrew Oliver Esq, Admirall Montague Secretary of this Province Mr Flucker, Mr Dudley Collector of Newport, Mr

Fisher Collector of Salem Robt Auchmooty Edqr Judge of Admiralty, Geo Jefrey Counsellor New Hampshire.

August 28

Saturday. I rose very early this morning & went with Admiral Montague Capt Williams of the Advice & Duncan to Menotomy Pond — Wee dined at the Tavern Mr Weathersbys & wee were Joynd by the following Company — Mrs Montagu, Miss Montagu George Montagu James Montagu Lady Frankland Mr Cromwell, Richd Letchmere Mrs Letchmere Miss Letchmere Mr Jonathan Simpson Mrs Simpson Miss Simpson Mr Inman Mrs Inman Geo Inman Sally Inman Commiſsioner Hulton Mrs Hulton Secretary Flucker Mrs Flucker Miss Flucker Lucy Flucker Sally Flucker Mr Harrison the Collector of the Customs Capt Tho' Symonds Commandor, the Captain Capt Campbell that Commands the Marines Major Musgrave of the 64th Regiment, Miss Bettsy Coffin Daughter of Nath Coffin Dr White Surgeon of the Hospitall, Mrs Rowe & Mr Atkinson who made this Entertainment Wee were very Jolly I Came home & spent the Evening at home with Mrs Rowe & Geo Inman Miss Mary Green Daughter of Rufus Green died this morning much Lamented — The Admirall Capt Williams & I had very very Poor Luck the fish very small.

September 21

Went with Capt Robertson & Duncan to Dedham, Mr Woodwards afishing — we fished there had very Great Luck we caught upwards Twenty Dozen of Large Perch. John Inman was married this evening

to Capt Haskins Daughter Miss Sally — a very Clever Young Lady.

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July 15

I called on Thos Golthwait & went with him & David Duncan to Salem. Wee Breakfasted at Newall's Lynn. I did my Business at The Town of Salem. I dined with the Revd Mr Nicholls' & his 14 Scholars. he Keeps them under strict order & Decorum. After dinner I stoped at Flax Pond & caught Two dozen of Perch from the Rocks. I Returned to Town & found my Dear Mrs Rowe in a most melancholly & distressed situation. She with Mrs Inman had been to the Funeral of Gilbt Deblois Child & Returning home in the Carriage the Horses took Fright & Run away, oversett the Carriage, I Believe has Bruised them very much. Mrs Rowe is so much frightened & so very much Overcome that she does not know the Event & at Present is in a very Dangerous State. Dr Lloyd & Dr Church attend her. I am in good hopes she will soon mend. Our house is full of Visitors on the Occasion — twas very lucy I Returned this evening. Mr Inman, Mrs Inman, Dr Lloyd & Mrs Gould stay all night. We are in Great Trouble & distress. God Grant she may be better in the morning.